



Buddy Fund Capital Campaign 2016

GIVING AT-RISK YOUTH THE HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

WHO WE ARE:

The Buddy Fund is a non-sectarian 501 (c) (3) charity helping St. Louis area children without regard to race, ethnicity or religion. It was founded in 1962 by St. Louis Sportscaster Buddy Blattner to supply sports equipment to other charities and organizations that use organized sports to help redirect the lives of these disadvantaged at-risk kids ... including-boys & girls clubs, police athletic leagues, homes for kids, community centers and after school programs.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Each year we provide sports equipment to approximately 40 organizations that are located in low income neighborhoods, where they have direct access to the at risk youth. Since 1962, cumulative efforts by the Buddy Fund have helped over 450,000 youngsters and provided more than \$3,800,000 in sports equipment. In recent years, \$75,000 worth of new, safe, quality sports equipment is distributed to the recipient organizations, resulting in over 15,000 St. Louis boys and girls benefiting from Buddy Fund sports equipment each year.

WHY WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL:

Proven Mission: For youngsters, organized sports participation remains a healthy, character building alternative to the destructive forces faced by kids with limited parenting, and/or growing up in difficult neighborhoods. The Buddy Fund's mission encourages and enables this participation, and demand for our assistance increases each year by our recipient organizations.

Efficient Operations: Being a 100% volunteer board with minimal overhead costs allows us to provide 95% of all income directly to the purchase of new sporting goods and equipment.

Sporting Goods Manufactures Support: These long-time supporters provide huge leverage for Buddy Fund dollars, offering all new, safe equipment at the lowest possible price or as a donation. We are especially grateful to Markwort, Rawlings, and Riddell who provide the equipment at their cost allowing us the double our purchasing power.

Sports Equipment Know-How: For most all sports, appropriate equipment depends on the age of the kids using them. We have the know-how to consult with our partner charities about equipment selection, maintenance and storage. Proper equipment is essential for safety.

Simple Structure & Committed Leadership: A chairperson and an operations board make up the leadership structure of The Buddy Fund, which is a 100% volunteer board. The operations board meets at least once a quarter. Operations are reviewed, committee reports presented, and decisions are made on equipment allocations based on our income.

Consistent Communications: Quarterly newsletters go to members and supporters, communicating the value the Buddy Fund provides for all our recipient organizations and helping maintain a sense of commitment to caring for disadvantaged kids.

OUR VISION GOAL:

The overwhelming demand for new sporting goods and equipment from all our 40 recipient organizations far exceeds what our annual operating income budget is able to provide. Through increased membership, corporate sponsors, and donations the Buddy Fund Board is committed to increasing our income budget from just over \$50,000 per year to over \$100,000 per year and then double that again to \$200,000 with our long range plan. With every dollar of income we are able to double our spend on the badly needed sporting goods and equipment. There is not a better way to have such a positive impactful effect on the disadvantaged at-risk youth of St. Louis than keeping them engaged in team sports and learning how to work together in a constructive environment which leads to positive values throughout life.

We sincerely thank you for your consideration!

BUDDY FUND CONTACT INFORMATION:

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